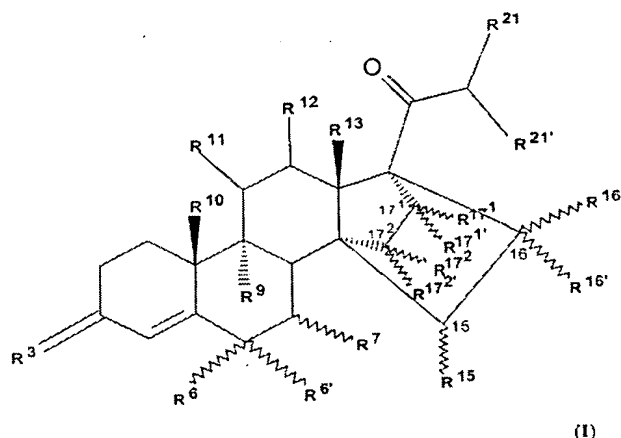


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Previously Presented) A combination comprising at least one gestagen and a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin or a derivative of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin, which is obtained by etherification or esterification of free alcoholic functions of cyclodextrin, wherein said at least one gestagen is a compound of formula I:



in which

$R^3$  is an oxygen atom, a hydroxyimino group, or two hydrogen atoms,

$R^6$  is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical,

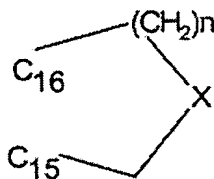
wherein  $R^{6'}$  and  $R^7$  represent hydrogen atoms, or else

$R^{6'}$  is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical, wherein  $R^{6'}$  and  $R^7$  represent a common additional bond,

$R^7$  is an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical, wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^{6'}$  represent hydrogen atoms, or else

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  together stand for an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position methylene group, and  $R^{6'}$  is a hydrogen atom, or  $R^6$  and  $R^{6'}$  together stand for an ethylene group or a methylene group, and  $R^7$  is a hydrogen atom,

$R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,  
 $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,  
 $R^{13}$  is a methyl or ethyl group,  
 $R^{15}$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{16}$  and  $R^{16'}$ , independently of one another, stand for a hydrogen atom, a  
 $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical or a  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl radical or together for a  $C_1$ - $C_3$   
 alkylidene group,  
 $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  stand for a common bond, and  $R^{16'}$  stands for a hydrogen atom  
 or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical, or  
 $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  together stand for a ring of partial formula



in which  $n = 1$  and  $2$ , and  $X$  means a methylene group or an oxygen atom, and  $R^{16'}$  stands for a  
 hydrogen atom,

$R^{17^1}$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{17^2}$  is a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical, or a  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl radical,  
 $R^{17^1'}$  and  $R^{17^2'}$  in each case is a hydrogen atom or for a common bond,  
 $R^{21}$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{21'}$  is a hydroxy group.

3. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the  
 gestagen is a (21S)-21-hydroxy-21-methyl-14,17-ethano-19-norpregna-4,9,15-triene-3,20-  
 dione.

4. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the  
 cyclodextrin is a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin.

5. (Currently Amended) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the cyclodextrin and the gestagen are present ~~with~~ as a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin in a complex having a gestagen : cyclodextrin molar ratio of 1:n, with n greater than or equal to 1, (gestagen : cyclodextrin,  $n \geq 1$ ), and or are present ~~with~~ as a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin in a complex having a gestagen : cyclodextrin molar ratio of 1:n, with n greater than or equal to 1 ( $n \geq 1$ ) (gestagen : cyclodextrin).

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2 which has been formulated as a stable, oral formulation.

8. (Withdrawn) Combination according to claim 6 for the production of a pharmaceutical agent for treating menopausal symptoms.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination according to claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant or vehicle.

11. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10 which has been formulated for peroral, oral, parenteral, transdermal, pulmonary, nasal, rectal, vaginal or intrauterine use.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for treating premenstrual symptoms comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a combination of claim 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A method for birth control comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a composition according to claim 10.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for stabilization of a gestagen of claim 2 comprising mixing said gestagen with a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin or a derivative of a

$\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin, which is obtained by etherification or esterification of free alcoholic functions of cyclodextrins.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for complexing a gestagen according to claim 2 and a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin comprising triturating said gestagen and said cyclodextrin to form a dry mixture of the gestagen-cyclodextrin complex, or combining a solution of said gestagen with a solution of said  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or said  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin to induce precipitation ~~or by precipitating a gestagen according to claim 1 into  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin or precipitating a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin into a gestagen according to claim 2.~~

16. (Previously Presented) A method for direct pelletizing of a gestagen complex according to claim 2 with a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin and a pharmaceutically compatible adjuvant comprising mixing said gestagen, cyclodextrin and said adjuvant to form a gestagen-cyclodextrin-adjuvant complex and pelleting the gestagen-cyclodextrin-adjuvant complex.

17. (Cancelled)

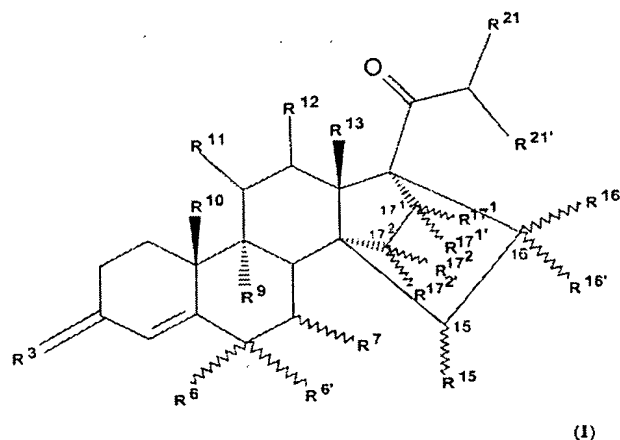
18. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 15, wherein precipitating is co-precipitating.

19. (Previously Presented) A process for complexing a gestagen according to claim 2 and a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin comprising adding an ethanolic solution of said gestagen to an aqueous solution of said cyclodextrin to form a precipitate of the gestagen-cyclodextrin complex.

20. (Previously Presented) The combination according to claim 2, wherein the gestagen is a (21S)-21-hydroxy-21-methyl-14,17-ethano-19-norpregna-4,9,15-triene-3,20-dione and the cyclodextrin is a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein said premenstrual symptoms are headache, depression, water retention and mastodynia.

22. (Previously Presented) A combination consisting of a gestagen and a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin or a derivative of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin, which is obtained by etherification or esterification of free alcoholic functions of a cyclodextrin, wherein said at least one gestagen is a compound of formula I:



in which

$R^3$  stands for an oxygen atom, the hydroxyimino group, or two hydrogen atoms,

**R<sup>6</sup>** stands for a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or for an

 $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical,

wherein then R<sup>6'</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent hydrogen atoms, or else

**R<sup>6'</sup>** stands for a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or for a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl radical, wherein then R<sup>6'</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> represent a common additional bond,

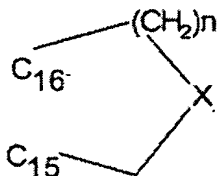
$R^7$  stands for an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical, wherein then  $R^6$  and  $R^{6'}$  represent hydrogen atoms, or else

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together stand for an α- or β-position methylene group, and R<sup>6'</sup> stands for a hydrogen atom, or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>6'</sup> together stand for an ethylene group or a methylene group, and R<sup>7</sup> stands for a hydrogen atom,

**R<sup>9</sup> and R<sup>10</sup> in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,**

$R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,

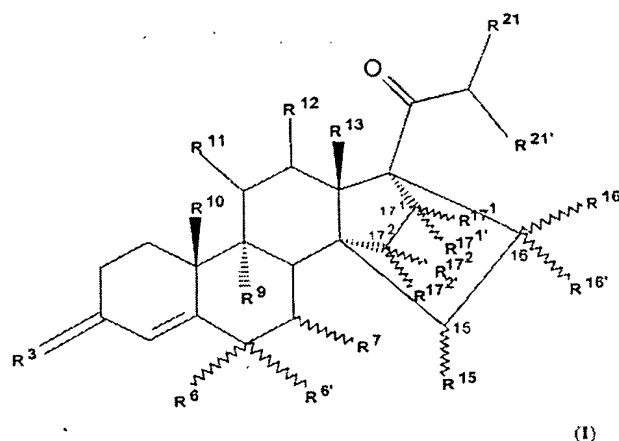
$R^{13}$  stands for a methyl or ethyl group,  
 $R^{15}$  stands for a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{16}$  and  $R^{16'}$ , independently of one another, stand for a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical or a  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl radical or together for a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkylidene group,  
 $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  stand for a common bond, and  $R^{16'}$  stands for a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical, or  
 $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  together stand for a ring of partial formula



in which  $n = 1$  and  $2$ , and  $X$  means a methylene group or an oxygen atom, and  $R^{16'}$  stands for a hydrogen atom,

$R^{17^1}$  stands for a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{17^2}$  stands for a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical, or a  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl radical,  
 $R^{17^1}$  and  $R^{17^2}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or for a common bond,  
 $R^{21}$  stands for a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,  
 $R^{21'}$  stands for a hydroxy group.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 14, wherein the stabilization of a gestagen is~~ A method for stabilization of a gestagen from acyloin rearrangement comprising mixing said gestagen with a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin or a derivative of a  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin or a  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin, which is obtained by etherification or esterification of free alcoholic functions of cyclodextrins, wherein said gestagen is a compound of formula I:



in which

$R^3$  is an oxygen atom, a hydroxyimino group, or two hydrogen atoms,

$R^6$  is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical,

wherein  $R^{6'}$  and  $R^7$  represent hydrogen atoms, or else

$R^{6'}$  is a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical, wherein  $R^{6'}$  and  $R^7$  represent a common additional bond,

$R^7$  is an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical, wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^{6'}$  represent hydrogen atoms, or else

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  together stand for an  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -position methylene group, and  $R^{6'}$  is a hydrogen atom, or  $R^6$  and  $R^{6'}$  together stand for an ethylene group or a methylene group, and  $R^7$  is a hydrogen atom,

$R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,

$R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  in each case stand for a hydrogen atom or a common bond,

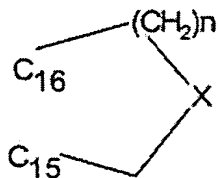
$R^{13}$  is a methyl or ethyl group,

$R^{15}$  is a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical,

$R^{16}$  and  $R^{16'}$ , independently of one another, stand for a hydrogen atom, a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical or a  $C_2$ - $C_4$  alkenyl radical or together for a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkylidene group,

$R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  stand for a common bond, and  $R^{16'}$  stands for a hydrogen atom or a  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl radical, or

R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> together stand for a ring of partial formula



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in which n = 1 and 2, and X means a methylene group or an oxygen atom, and R<sup>16'</sup> stands for a hydrogen atom,

R<sup>17<sup>1</sup></sup> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl radical,

R<sup>17<sup>2</sup></sup> is a hydrogen atom, a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl radical, or a C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkenyl radical,

R<sup>17<sup>1'</sup></sup> and R<sup>17<sup>2'</sup></sup> in each case is a hydrogen atom or for a common bond,

R<sup>21</sup> is a hydrogen atom or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl radical,

R<sup>21'</sup> is a hydroxy group.